



Kootenai County

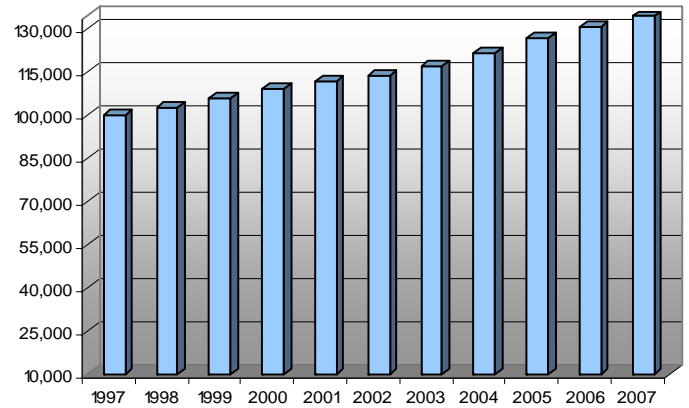
October 2008

Work Force Trends

Population

Kootenai County has experienced exceptionally strong population growth since the 1970s. From 1997 to 2007, its population grew 34 percent from 100,108 to 134,442, while Idaho's population grew 22 percent and the U.S. population grew 11 percent. The county's spectacular scenery, outdoor recreational opportunities, proximity to urban amenities, and high quality of life continue to draw new residents. Strong population growth shapes many aspects of the county's economy.

The county seat, Coeur d'Alene, had a population of 42,300 in 2007. The population of larger cities are: Post Falls, 25,400; Hayden, 12,600; and Rathdrum, 6,600. Kootenai County is closely tied to its Washington neighbor, Spokane County, with a population of 460,000.



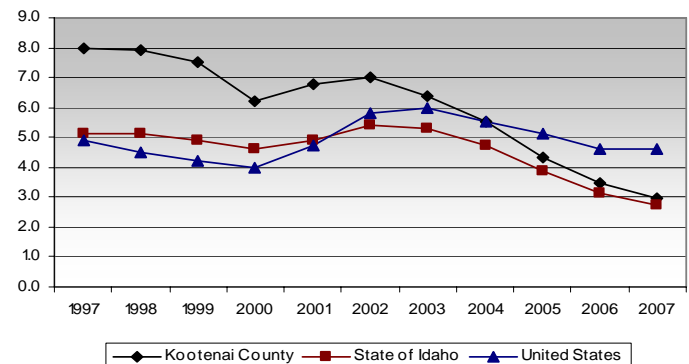
Labor Force & Employment

For 20 years, Kootenai County's economy has grown at an astounding rate as it diversifies its manufacturing base, expands its tourism sector and adds call centers. In addition, tourism and population growth fueled high levels of construction and boosted retail, health care, service, and government jobs.

The opening of the Coeur d'Alene Resort in 1987 led to incredible growth in tourism. The Silverwood theme park opened in 1988 and has continued to grow every year. In 1994, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe opened a casino in Worley. Today, the casino, golf course and hotel employ more than 900 people. In 2007, tourism-related jobs averaged 8,800.

Also promoting the diversification and growth of the economic base during the last decade were the relocation of many manufacturing operations and six call centers to Kootenai County. About 4,800 people work in the county's manufacturing businesses while 2,100 people work at call

Unemployment Rates



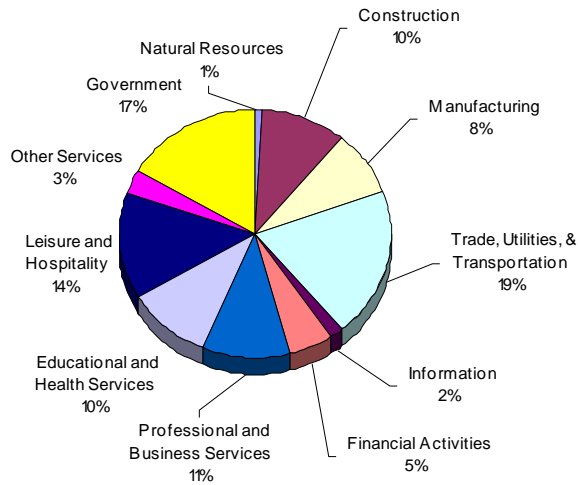
centers. Kootenai County's low business costs, good business climate and quality of life have attracted many new businesses. In 2005, Sysco opened a distribution center serving the food service industry that employs 180 people, Buck Knives opened a manufacturing plant that employs more than 200 people and U.S. Bank opened a customer service center that soon will employ 500 people.

The county has created so many jobs that it has received much national attention for its booming economy as well as for its great lifestyle. Although growth is slowing, the county continues to lay the foundation for further economic success.

Labor Force	Sep 2007	Sep 2008
Civilian Labor Force	69,725	70,035
Total Employment	67,691	65,962
Unemployed	2,034	4,073
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.9	5.8
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.7	5.0
U.S. % Unemployed	4.7	6.1

Labor Force	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Civilian Labor Force	53,895	55,205	55,809	56,473	59,356	60,188	61,443	63,607	66,574	68,051	69,859
Unemployment	4,304	4,341	4,207	3,499	4,040	4,216	3,925	3,521	2,889	2,356	2,061
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.0	7.9	7.5	6.2	6.8	7.0	6.4	5.5	4.3	3.5	2.9
Employment	49,591	50,864	51,602	52,974	55,316	55,973	57,518	60,086	63,685	65,695	67,799

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2007



Economic Development

Kootenai County's growing population and economic development provide many opportunities for business creation. Between 1997 and 2007, the number of private-sector employers increased 45 percent from 3,529 to 5,104.

Jobs Plus, the local economic development organization, has recruited dozens of businesses to Kootenai County over the last 10 years. Low business costs, a pleasant business climate, low electricity and natural gas costs, and an affordable workforce are among the county's attractions for new businesses.

Major Employers

Center Partners (call centers)
Coeur d'Alene Resort
Coeur d'Alene Casino
Esterline Advanced Input Systems (manufacturer)
Kimball Office (furniture manufacturer)
Kootenai Health (hospital)
North Idaho College
U.S. Bank (including customer service center)

Occupational Wages*

Occupational Wages*	Starting Wage
Assemblers	\$8.75
Bookkeepers	\$10.00
Carpenters, Journey-level	\$17.00
Cashiers	\$7.75
Clerks, General Office	\$9.25
Clerks, Retail Sales	\$8.00
Cooks, Restaurant	\$8.00
Customer Service Reps	\$9.50
Janitors	\$8.75
Laborers, General	\$9.25
Machinists	\$13.50
Nurses, Registered	\$19.20
Secretaries, General	\$9.50
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$13.20

* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor Web site at lmi.idaho.gov.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1997, 2006, & 2007	1997		2006		2007	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	37,678	\$21,610	54,594	\$29,776	56,436	\$31,037
Agriculture	508	\$24,705	547	\$32,585	530	\$34,352
Mining	114	\$54,232	149	\$77,745	144	\$134,227
Construction	3,085	\$26,152	5,828	\$32,661	5,903	\$35,638
Manufacturing	4,055	\$25,967	4,735	\$35,058	4,753	\$35,926
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	8,080	\$21,233	10,339	\$28,762	10,937	\$29,266
Information	760	\$29,911	984	\$36,889	981	\$38,501
Financial Activities	1,585	\$26,224	2,837	\$41,291	2,955	\$41,591
Professional and Business Services	3,062	\$23,992	6,058	\$31,429	5,994	\$33,362
Educational and Health Services	3,058	\$20,614	5,291	\$29,862	5,642	\$31,276
Leisure and Hospitality	5,658	\$10,083	7,300	\$13,978	7,920	\$14,515
Other Services	1,005	\$15,778	1,362	\$20,317	1,325	\$21,485
Government	6,709	\$24,483	9,165	\$33,928	9,353	\$35,539

Per Capita Income	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Kootenai County	\$20,471	\$21,547	\$22,016	\$23,011	\$23,721	\$23,796	\$24,432	\$26,108	\$27,449	\$29,134
State of Idaho	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,077	\$25,024	\$25,221	\$25,524	\$27,361	\$28,301	\$29,920
United States	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,843	\$30,574	\$30,821	\$31,504	\$33,123	\$34,757	\$36,714

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:
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